

## **RESOLUTION 16-01**

### **A RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE SAN GABRIEL VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (“SGVCOG”) SUPPORTING THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY ORDINANCE FOR PHARAMCEUTICALS AND SHARPS**

**WHEREAS**, an estimated 200 million pounds of unused or expired prescription drugs are stored in medicine cabinets across America; and

**WHEREAS**, this situation provides easy access and an opportunity for the abuse of these medications by others for whom they were not intended; and

**WHEREAS**, in Los Angeles County from 2000 to 2009, there were 8,265 drug-related deaths and public health statistics show that 61 percent of those deaths involved a commonly abused prescription or over-the-counter drug; and

**WHEREAS**, it is important that needles, syringes, lancets, and other medical products are disposed of properly; and

**WHEREAS**, the use of and disposal of these items is closely regulated in healthcare facilities, there is no regulatory oversight of their use in the home; and

**WHEREAS**, studies show that these items are routinely placed into the trash and improper disposal practices may result in needlestick and other injuries that can expose others to bloodborne illnesses such as Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C, and HIV; and

**WHEREAS**, many residents are unsure of safe disposal methods, and proper disposal services are limited; and

**WHEREAS**, these situations represent a significant public health problem; and

**WHEREAS**, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors passed a motion directing the Pharmaceutical Working Group, comprised of several County departments, to draft an Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) ordinance; and

**WHEREAS**, EPR is a policy approach in which producers have cradle-to-cradle responsibility for the products they create and sell and are responsible for designing and managing effective end-of-life systems for those products; and

**WHEREAS**, EPR incorporates the cost of disposal and recovery for discarded products and reduces the financial burden on local governments; and

**WHEREAS**, EPR encourages reuse and recycling and also encourages producers to consider the health and environmental costs associated with the products they create and to include those costs in the product price, thereby creating an incentive to design products that are more durable, easier to repair and recycle, and are less toxic; and

**WHEREAS**, EPR framework legislation is a holistic approach that establishes transparent and fair principles and procedures for applying EPR to categories of products and ensures a level playing field for all producers of those products; and

**WHEREAS**, in January 2008 the California Integrated Waste Management Board adopted a Framework for an EPR system in California; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2010 the SGVCOG adopted Resolution 10-03 supporting the implementation of the Framework for an EPR System adopted by the California Integrated Waste Management Board in 2008 to manage problematic products; and

**WHEREAS**, the SGVCOG supports collaboration and policy changes that shift responsibility for financing and managing products at the end-of-life away from local governments to the producers of products; and

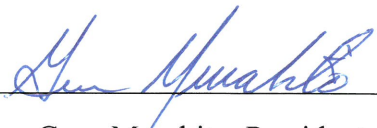
**WHEREAS**, the SGVCOG supports producer financed and managed product take-back, in collaboration with retailers and other stakeholders, to local government operated programs; and

**WHEREAS**, the SGVCOG encourages all manufacturers to share responsibility for eliminating waste through minimizing excess packaging, designing products for durability, reusability, and the ability to be recycled; using recycled materials in the manufacture of new products; and providing financial support for collection, processing, recycling, or disposal of used materials; and

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE SGVCOG** that by adoption of this Resolution the SGVCOG urges the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to continue to take timely action to adopt and implement the Los Angeles County Extended Producer Responsibility Pharmaceuticals and Sharps Ordinance.

PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED this 21<sup>st</sup> day of January 2016.

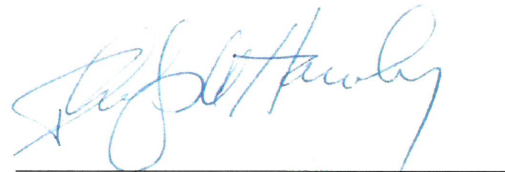
SAN GABRIEL VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS

By:   
Gene Murabito, President

**Attest:**

I, Philip A. Hawkey, Executive Director and Secretary of the Board of Directors of the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments, do hereby certify that Resolution 16-01 was adopted at a regular meeting of the Governing Board held on the 21st day of January, 2016, by the following roll call vote:

|                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| <b>AYES:</b>    | Alhambra, Azusa, Baldwin Park, Claremont, Covina, Diamond Bar, Duarte, El Monte, Glendora, La Canada Flintridge, Monrovia, Monterey Park, Pasadena, Pomona, Rosemead, San Dimas, San Gabriel, South El Monte, South Pasadena, Temple City, Walnut, West Covina, LA County Supervisorial District #1, LA County Supervisorial District #4, LA County Supervisorial District #5, SGV Water Districts |
| <b>NOES:</b>    |  |
| <b>ABSTAIN:</b> |  |
| <b>ABSENT:</b>  | Arcadia, Bradbury, Industry, Irwindale, La Puente, La Verne, Montebello, San Marino, Sierra Madre  |



Philip A. Hawkey, Secretary